

Press Intelligence, Inc.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005

Front Page	Edit Page	Other Page

CHICAGO, ILL.
SUN-TIMES
MORNING - 581,553
SUNDAY ---682,043

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SEP 25 1980

Sun-Times

world/nation

Thursday, September 25, 1980 23

Jesse assails CIA memo calling him Libya agent

By Gilbert Jimenez

The Rev. Jesse L. Jackson Wednesday night called a reported secret CIA memo that identified him as a Libyan oil agent a "character assassination tactic."

Jackson, head of Operation PUSH, denied that CIA charge and told the Sun-Times, "It is a leaked CIA report."

"I challenge them to either prove that I am an agent or expose the person who leaked this report because whoever leaked it has made an aggressive political act that's designed to assassinate my character and do damage to our organization."

"Libya is an African country that America has diplomatic relations with and I have challenged African and Arab countries to open up trade routes to black America, to use the business of our banks, our insurance companies, to use our lawyers and brokers and to support our colleges," Jackson said.

The memo, sent to the White House last March, also labeled Billy Carter as another oil agent of the North African government, it

was reported Wednesday.

The Atlanta Constitution, quoting informed sources close to the Senate investigation of the president's brother, said CIA Director Stansfield Turner passed the message secretly to the national security adviser, Zbigniew Brzezinski, on March 31.

Jackson earlier acknowledged to the Atlanta newspaper that he had written to the Libyan Embassy in Washington on behalf of the Wallace Co. in Tuskegee, Ala., a black-owned oil concern.

Jackson said he "would accept no financial deal from Libya and none has been offered," the newspaper said.

Jackson, head of Operation PUSH—People United To Serve Humanity—said he also "sent several letters" to the Libyan government in support of "opening trade routes between that country and black America."

A copy of the secret CIA document was made available to members of the Senate Intelligence Committee and to the special Judiciary subcommittee investigating Billy Carter's

dealings with the Libyan government, the newspaper said.

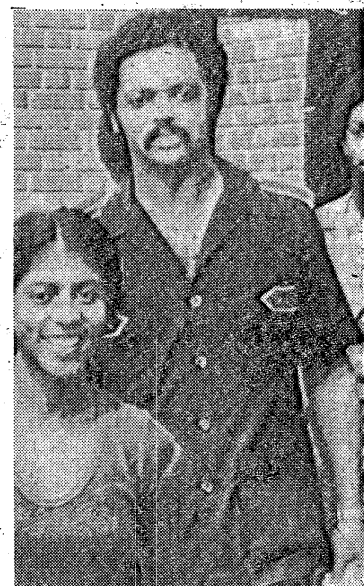
The newspaper report carried no elaboration on what was in the memo or what made the CIA believe Jackson was a Libyan agent.

In Washington, Billy Carter told reporters he knew nothing about any involvement by Jackson in oil dealings with Libya. Carter said he never had any oil dealings with the Wallace Co.

The newspaper said the CIA message did not link Billy Carter and Jackson. Jackson said he never has met or talked with Billy Carter or Henry "Randy" Coleman, the president's brother's business associate, the newspaper said.

Under protest, Billy Carter registered with the Justice Department as a Libyan agent on July 14. He has acknowledged receiving a \$220,000 payment from Libya's government.

In October, Jackson took a controversial tour of the Middle East in which he met with Egyptian, Syrian and PLO leaders.



ON CAMPUS at Benedict College in Columbia, S.C., the Rev. Jesse L. Jackson encouraged students to vote Nov. 4. The civil rights leader was questioned later about a CIA report tying him to Libyan oil deals. (AP)

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SEP 28 1980

Jackson seeks apology from CIA on memo leak

By Michelle Stevens

The Rev. Jesse L. Jackson Thursday demanded an apology from the CIA director and called for a Justice Department investigation of the leak of a secret CIA memo identifying him as an agent for the Libyan government.

Jackson, national president of Operation PUSH, called the leak to the news media "an attempt to discredit me and to whip black leaders in line."

He made the statement at a press conference, where he was accompanied by Gary Mayor Richard G. Hatcher and about a dozen black civic and union leaders.

Jackson said he was told by Justice Department officials that the department "has found nothing we have done to be unlawful, and we are not under current investigation."

Jackson said the Justice Department apologized to him Thursday morning. Hatcher said, "They went further than that. They said they are outraged by the charge."

Hatcher, board chairman of PUSH (People United to Serve Humanity) characterized the

CIA memo leak as an attempt to curb efforts by blacks to engage in business with foreign countries.

"We shall continue to express our outrage whenever efforts to participate by blacks are undermined" by such tactics, Hatcher said.

In addition to the apology from CIA Director Stansfield Turner and an investigation, Jackson said he was demanding an explanation of the memo from Zbigniew Brzezinski, President Carter's national security adviser, and a copy of the memo.

Jackson admitted he wrote a letter to the Libyan Embassy in Washington on behalf of Wallace Oil Co., a black-owned company. But he said, "American companies do \$4 billion worth of business with Libya, and black Americans will not be intimidated" as they try to get in on some of those business deals.

"I am not an agent of Libya or any foreign government, or even of this government," he said. And he challenged the CIA: "If I am guilty, call me in. If not, get off my back."

He said he believed the leak was "politically motivated," possibly by "holdovers from the previous administration."

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SEP 27 1980

No evidence Jackson was Libya agent: Powell

By Patrick Oster

Sun-Times Washington Bureau Chief

WASHINGTON—The White House said Friday that the federal government has no evidence that the Rev. Jesse L. Jackson was ever an agent of Libya or profited from any oil deals made with that radical government.

White House press secretary Jody Powell branded as inaccurate press reports that quoted a secret Central Intelligence Agency memorandum to the effect that Jackson was such an agent.

Jackson, who recently endorsed President Carter for re-election, was in Washington Friday for a meeting with Carter, but the CIA memo "did not come up and they did not talk about it," said Powell at his daily briefing.

Powell suggested that the story about Jackson first run in the Atlanta Constitution,

might be part of a recent campaign of "disinformation" directed by unnamed sources out to embarrass the United States through false stories involving the Libyan government.

Asked about the accuracy of the memo, Powell said: "The government has no evidence or information indicating that [Jackson] is or has been an agent of the Libyan government or under its influence or that he has ever intended to or made any effort to profit from any oil transaction between Libya and any American company or any other Libyan oil transaction."

Powell said the press reports that cited the CIA memo "did not accurately reflect what was contained in that information."

He did not address the question of whether the government had any evidence that Jackson arranged any oil deals with the Libyans, without making any personal profit.

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SEP 28 1980

Sunday Sun-Times, September 28, 1980

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47

Percy asks Jesse leak probe

Sen. Charles H. Percy (R-Ill.) on Saturday called for a congressional investigation into the leak of a secret CIA memo that allegedly identified the Rev. Jesse L. Jackson as an agent for the Libyan government.

The White House on Friday said the government has no evidence that Jackson, head of Operation PUSH, was ever an agent of Libya's radical government or profited from any oil deals with that country.

Percy said he received a phone call

from Jackson last week, asking the senator to investigate the allegations and "bring the truth out."

The Atlanta Constitution last week said the accusations against Jackson were culled from a secret CIA memorandum.

After meeting with CIA Director Stansfield Turner and national security adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski, Percy said, "I can state categorically that from the information I have, there is no such evidence that would cause anyone to be-

lieve that there is any connection between Jackson and the Libyan government or any government."

Percy said the only contacts Jackson has made with the Libyan government were on behalf of minority enterprise in this country.

"We will investigate what happened to lead to the release of this kind of damaging information about a respected citizen, which was based on a total distortion," Percy said.

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SEP 29 1980

Creeps on Jesse Jackson's back

The Rev. Jesse L. Jackson of Operation PUSH is blazing mad, and we don't blame him. Somebody in Washington last week reportedly leaked a purported CIA memo allegedly identifying Jackson as a Libyan oil agent and offering no documentation whatever.

It's a slimy business, "character assassination," as Jackson calls it. We can't know the motive, but we hope it has nothing to do with Jackson's blackness.

All he apparently did was write to the Libyan Embassy in Washington soliciting business for a black-owned oil company in Alabama and to the Libyan government in sup-

port of "opening trade routes between that country and black America"—its banks, insurance companies, lawyers and brokers. He has sent the same kinds of letters to other Arab and African countries.

As Jackson points out, the United States has diplomatic (if not cordial) relations with Libya, and U.S. companies do \$4 billion in business with it every year.

If Jackson is anybody's agent, he's a worthy, forceful, eloquent agent for black America—and that's a compliment.

If he's guilty of something, charge him. Otherwise, scandalmongers, get off his back.